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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
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09/926,596

07/08/2002

Anders Folkesson

ABR 022 US

6671

7590

02/23/2005

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EXAMINER

ANGELL, JON E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1635

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/926,596 | FOLKESSON ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jon Eric Angell | 1635 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The preliminary amendment filed 7/8/2002 is acknowledged. The preliminary amendment filed 7/8/2002 has been entered. Claims 1-18 are currently pending in the application and are addressed herein.

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1, 4 and 13, drawn to a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1 as well as a vaccine comprising said peptide.

Group II claim(s) 1, 5 and 13, drawn to drawn to a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 6 as well as a vaccine comprising said peptide.

Group III claims 2, 4, 12, drawn to an antibody directed against a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1 as well as a vaccine comprising said antibody.

Group IV, claim(s) 2, 5, 12, drawn to an antibody directed against a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 6 as well as a vaccine comprising said antibody.

Group V, claim(s) 3, 6, 8, 14, drawn to a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, as well as a vaccine comprising said nucleotide sequence and a vector and host comprising said nucleotide sequence.

Group VI, claim(s) 3, 7, 9, 14, drawn to a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 6, as well as a vaccine comprising said nucleotide sequence and a vector and host comprising said nucleotide sequence.

Group VII, claim(s) 10, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1.

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Group VIII, claim(s) 10, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering an antibody directed to a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1.

Group IX, claim(s) 11, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 6.

Group X, claim(s) 11, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering an antibody directed to a peptide encoded by SEQ ID NO: 1.

Group XI, claim(s) 15, 16, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Group XII, claim(s) 17, 18, drawn to a method for vaccinating a mammal comprising administering the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

It is noted that 37 CFR 1.475(b) states:

“An international or a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combinations of categories:

- (1) A product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or
- (2) A product and process of use of said product; or
- (3) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- (4) A process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process; or
- (5) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process.

37 CFR 1.475(c) states:

“If an application contains claims to more or less than one of the combination of categories of invention set forth in paragraph (b) of this section, unity of invention might not be present.”

37 CFR 1.475(d) also states:

“If multiple products, processes of manufacture or uses are claimed, the first invention of the category first mentioned in the claims of the application and the first recited invention of each other categories related thereto will be considered as the main invention in the claims, see PCT Article 17(3)(a) and 1.476(c).”

37 CFR 1.475(e) further states:

“The determination whether a group of inventions is so linked as to form a single general inventive concept shall be made without regard to whether the inventions are claimed in separate claims or as alternative within a single claim.”

In view of 37 CFR 1.475 (b), 37 CFR 1.475 (c), 37 CFR 1.475 (d), and 37 CFR 1.475 (e), Group I, is considered the main invention.

The inventions listed as Groups I-XII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: there is no special technical feature linking the inventions. It is noted that PCT Rules 13.1-13.2 indicate that a special technical feature is a novel technical feature. Thus non-novel technical features are not special technical features. The technical feature linking the inventions include the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 6 as well as peptide encoded by said nucleotide sequences and antibodies directed to said peptides. However, these technical features are not novel, as evidenced by the “X” reference cited in the International Search Report (i.e., the Folkesson abstract, May 1997) against claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 13-14. Since the technical feature linking the inventions is not novel, there is no special technical feature linking the inventions.

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A telephone call was made to Sharon Crane on 2/15/2005 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon Eric Angell whose telephone number is 571-272-0756. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John LeGuyader can be reached on 571-272-0760. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jon Eric Angell
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DAVE TRONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER